MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Sir, I beg to move for the adjournment of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance.

(The member handed over a note to the President).

PRESIDENT: Mr. Kesava Pillai, I shall be prepared to consider the question of permitting your motion to be discussed if you will so amend it as to bring it within the purview of the Rules. I see your motion deals with two definite points; and according to the Rules not more than one matter can be discussed. If you will suitably amend it, I shall be prepared to accept it.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Though they seem to be *two* points, they really relate only to *one* matter, namely, the cholera epidemic.

PRESIDENT: No, they are *two* distinct matters.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): One is about the after-effects of cholera. I will just correct it.

(*Mr. Kesava Pillai corrected the notice of his motion and handed it over again to the President.*)

PRESIDENT: The motion, of which Mr. Kesava Pillai has just now given me notice, is for the adjournment of the House for the investigation of the root cause, remedy, relief and preventive measures in respect of the cholera affected areas in the State.

I am prepared to give you leave to make your motion at 3·30 tomorrow afternoon.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 5,500 under Demand I—Land Revenue, for four requirements.

The first item is for a special staff for the resurvey of ryots' roads in the Pattanamtitta taluk. That comes to Rs. 1,080.

The second is for the transfer of funds, on account of the sweeping staff attached to some of the markets in certain conservancy towns from the Land Revenue Department to the Sanitary Department. That is merely a transfer of funds, because it was not included in the Sanitary Department Budget. That comes to Rs. 760, and no additiona grant in this sum is actually required.

The third is for an honorarium to Mr. M. Raghava Aiyangar fo the compilation and publication of a Survey Manual for Travancore. The amount is Rs. 1,000.

The last item is for additional staff for checking the Lands Records Maintenance sketches in the Survey Office; and the amount is Rs. 2,660.

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[Mr. S. C. H. Robinson.]

As regards the first *viz.*, the ryots' roads in the Pattanamtitta taluk, there are 43 roads in the Pattanamtitta taluk and the total length of these roads is 150 miles. Of these 43 roads, only 4 roads, measuring 13 miles in length, have been surveyed so far. The remaining 39 roads have yet to be surveyed, and all the 43 roads have to be demarcated. If this work of subdivision and demarcation is delayed, the land-owners, who have given their lands free, will have to continue payment of land tax for these lands. We want to survey these lands and write off the tax. The Land Records staff has to do the demarcation and survey of private lands relinquished by ryots, and the demarcation of porambokes taken up for these roads and to prepare sketches of the lands that come under the two heads that I just mentioned. They have got to transfer the lands from the above head to *porambokes* and then cancel the proportionate assessment on these lands. Sketches have got to be prepared and handed over to the P. W. Department for their information and guidance. We have also got to dispose of, by auction or otherwise, all the trees standing on these new lands taken up. All this work cannot be done by the Land Records Maintenance staff in the taluk at present. They tried to do it ; and we see the result, namely, that only four roads measuring about 13 miles have been done till now. We just ask for this little extra staff in order to expedite the work. It is several years now since the owners have given up the lands for these roads. And the P. W. D. cannot take them up and maintain them till the items of work that I just now mentioned have been done. The people who gave these lands free do not get any relief now, because, they are not maintained and kept in order by the P. W. D. who in their turn are not able to do it, since the lands have not been handed over to them after survey and demarcation. I think I have explained the matter fully and I am sure that the Pattanamtitta member, and all the other members also, will fully support the demand.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : May I know when these roads were completed ?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : It was several years ago.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Was there any reason why this amount could not have been provided in the Budget for the year?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : We have been trying to do it with the normal staff. We did not want to ask for any extra staff. It takes a long time for the work to be done by the normal staff; and the people have been complaining about the delay. We found that with the normal staff alone it would take very much longer time and so decided to come to the Council now in order to expedite the matter. Several land-owners have now to pay tax on lands which they have handed over free to Government for public purposes. Is it not very hard to make them continue to pay tax on these lands? I have got all the details about the normal work that

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the Land Records staff in the taluk has to do. If any member wants the information I can give it. But it will take a long time to explain it all in detail. Government are convinced that it is impossible to get the work done by the regular staff. There are about 150 *poramboke* cases filed every year in the taluk, and 1,000 puduval cases. All this work has to be done by the existing staff under the Revenue Supervisor. They not only have to do land records work but have also to help in the survey of large minor circuits and prepare sketches. We are trying our best to manage with the regular staff but find that either the one or the other has got to suffer. If we take off the normal work, then the ryots' roads will go on. But the normal work will suffer. And if we ask them to attend to the normal work, the people who have given their lands free of compensation have to suffer on account of their being forced to continue to pay tax on these lands.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it not possible to transfer some of the L. R. M. staff from taluks like Chirayinkil and Todupuzha where there is not heavy L. R. M. work?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): We tried every possible way. There is not a single Surveyor or even a peon who can be spared. If I transfer the staff of other taluks, then I may have to come to the Council later on for additional staff for those taluks. I do not want to do it.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): My question is whether the L. R. M. staff of taluks like Chirayinkil and Todupuzha, where the L. R. M. work is practically over, or at any rate, where there is no heavy work, could not be transferred to Pattanamtitta to help the existing staff there.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): There are seven *pakuthies* in the Pattanamtitta taluk and during the first five months of 1103 the L. R. M. staff had verified 120 sub-divisions.....

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I was referring to taluks like Chirayinkil and Todupuzha where the Land Records Maintenance work is not heavy.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Even in those taluks they have not merely the Land Records Maintenance work to do. They have also to help in the sub-division work and minor circuit work, preparation of sketches and so on. If it had been possible by any means to avoid coming to the Council for a supplementary grant, I would certainly have done it. I hate coming to the Council and moving for grants and making speeches. It was because I found that extra staff was found absolutely necessary to finish the work in time that I come to the Council for this grant.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): May I know the total cost on account of the Land Records Establishment?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): If the member will kindly refer to the last Budget .....

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MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Does it not come to nearly two lakhs of rupees?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): If the member will turn to page 33 of the Budget, he will find that the cost on account of the Land Records Maintenance staff is Rs. 77,520.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): I want the total cost on account of Land Records Establishment.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That will have to be calculated.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Is it not over a lakh?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I cannot say off-hand.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): The Survey Department—does it not cost about Rs. 75,000?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It means some calculation. The member can find it out from the Budget. I will give him a copy of the Budget if he wants it.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): I am asking Mr. Robinson whether the amount of two lakhs of Rupees is not an excessive charge for the survey work of the State.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*). Not at all, Sir, considering the amount of work that has got to be done. We have got to survey a large area and we have also got to prepare sketches and check sketches of a large number of lands that have been surveyed but have not been registered yet, since the survey has not been checked.

The Survey Superintendent's work also is being scrutinised by the Government. I do not think it is possible, at present, to do more than what is being done by the department. There are at present about 89,000 sketches pending in the Survey Office. The average number of sketches received during a month from the 28 taluks is 3000 sketches. There are arrears of 69,758 old sketches to be checked now in the Survey Office. It is now several years since the roads were cut by the people but as the lands forming the roads have not yet been surveyed and demarcated, the P. W. D. cannot take charge of the roads for maintenance

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know the kind of special staff that is proposed to be appointed for this road survey?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I want only 6 Accountants on Rs. 14 each for a period of 6 months and 12 Chainmen on Rs. 8 each for 6 months, *i.e.* 2 Chainmen for each Accountant. The total cost comes to Rs. 1,080. Of this Rs. 504 is under establishment and Rs. 576 is under contingencies. So I think, considering the urgency of the matter and the fact that it is also for the good of the people in the taluk, the House would ungrudgingly sanction the required sum.

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MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is there a list of ryots' roads, completed so far, in the Commissioner's office?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I can get a list and show it afterwards to the member.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether there is such a list in the Commissioner's Office, and whether the department is attending to survey work from time to time?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes. If the roads are not maintained properly and left in a neglected condition, they will not serve any useful purpose to the public. The lands have to be surveyed before they are handed over to the P. W. D. for maintenance. There are about 43 ryots' roads in the Pattanamtitta taluk of which 4 roads covering a length of about 13 miles have been surveyed so far. The remaining 39 roads have yet to be surveyed and all the 43 roads have to be demarcated. I hope the House will sanction the demand.

The second item is about the transfer of sums on account of the sweeping staff attached to some of the markets from the Revenue Department to the Sanitary Department. I move for a transfer of Rs. 760 from the amount of Rs. 45,000 provided under 1 C. Improvements to the markets, to the budget of the Sanitary Department for meeting the pay of the sweeping staff attached to certain markets.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether this amount is provided for in the budget for 1104 M. E.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Then, may I know how it is a fresh demand?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): What I propose to do is, to take it away from my budget and hand it over to the Sanitary Department because this matter is now under correspondence. This amount is intended for improving sanitation, up-keep and cleanliness of the markets that are being controlled by the Sanitary Department. Under ordinary conditions what we generally do is to put up sheds for holding markets and the works of sanitation are to be attended to by the Sanitary Department itself. With a view to secure be ter sanitation of markets the Government sanctioned the transfer of the sweeping and cleaning staff employed in 14 markets in certain conservancy towns from the Revenue Department to the Sanitary Department. As no funds were provided in the budget of the Sanitary Department to meet the pay of the above staff, I propose to transfer this item, as it is only the beginning of the year, to the Sanitary Department.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Why was it not made in the budget of the Sanitary Department?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): At the beginning of the year the work was done by the Revenue Department and hence a provision was made in the Revenue Budget. Now the Government have ordered that this work might be done by the Sanitary Department.

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MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether it is not intended by this grant that the amount has to be transferred to the Sanitary Department?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes, it simply means that.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Is this not merely a diversion of funds?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Does the Land Revenue Commissioner say that the control of the markets has been transferred to the Sanitary Department?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): In respect of sanitation and all questions regarding public health it is the duty of the Sanitary Department to keep watch over them. It is in this way, I say, that the control has been transferred to the Sanitary Department. In consultation with the Sanitary Commissioner, the Land Revenue Department is putting up the necessary stone walls for markets. The Sanitary Commissioner and myself work together in this way. When he tells me that he wants some other sheds, I ask the Peishkars to arrange accordingly. For these estimates will be prepared. After the building is finished the collection of revenue from them is being attended to by the Revenue Department. For putting up walls in some big markets the Revenue Department seeks the aid of the P. W. D. In small markets these works are being done by the Department. We hope to finish the building work in the Neduvangad market. The Sanitary Commissioner and myself visited the place and found the necessity for more sheds. All the amounts provided in the Budget towards improvements to markets will be spent this year.

PRESIDENT: Are you not wandering away from the point?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The next item is, the honorarium to Mr. M. Raghava Aiyangar, for compilation and publication of a Survey Manual for Travancore. It is a very good work on the lines of the Madras Survey Manual. We have no such survey manual in Travancore defining and describing the work and the duties of the field staff and the office staff, as in Madras, for the guidance of the officers of the Survey and Revenue Departments. It was therefore considered necessary to have a manual defining and describing the work and duties of the field staff and the office staff in these departments similar to the Madras Survey Manual. As Mr. Raghava Aiyangar had experience in this work he was entrusted with the compilation of a manual. He had to do all his work in addition to his legitimate duty. He was put to a good deal of expense in the way and in consideration of his hard work, he was told that the question of giving him an honorarium would be considered after the work was finished. Mr. Raghava Aiyangar took up the work in 1923 and submitted the draft manual in the year 1924. Though Mr. Raghava Aiyangar asked Rs. 1,500 as honorarium, Government

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proposed to grant him Rs. 1,000 for this purpose. The manual has now been printed and published. The book contains two parts. Part I consists of 17 Chapters and deals chiefly with the several processes of work to be attended to, both in field and in office, in cadastral survey, resurvey, and town surveys. It also contains brief descriptions of survey and drawing instruments. Part II which consists of 6 Chapters is useful for the officers of the Land Records, Survey and Revenue Departments.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know the number of pages it contains?

MR. S C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): There are about 170 pages of instruction and a good number of pages of illustrations in the first part. In the second Part there are about 184 pages of instruction. There are also supplemental pages of statements.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*): Was he a Government servant?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): He is on leave preparatory to retirement. Considering the extra work he has done Government thought that he should be given an honorarium. The publication of a manual was not his legitimate work.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Was it a codification of the existing rules or the framing of fresh rules?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The book is a collection of all the departmenal orders and rulings passed from time to time with instructions to Survey and Revenue officers for their guidance in office work as well as field work.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Could this be obtained in the Council Library?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. MURUVELIL PACHU PILLAI (*Shertallai*): മിസ്റ്റർ രാഘവയ്യങ്കാരെ സ്പെഷ്യലായിട്ട ഈ ജോലിക്ക നിയമിച്ചിരുന്നോ? അതല്ല, സ്വന്തജോലിക്കും പുറമെ ഈ ജോലി ക്കൂടി ചെയ്യാൻ നിയമിച്ചിരുന്നൊ?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): This work was entrusted to him in addition to his legitimate duty.

MR. MURUVELIL PACHU PILLAI (*Shertallai*): ഈ റിപ്പോട്ട് എഴുതി തീക്കുന്നതിന എത്രകാലം വേണ്ടിവന്ന എന്ന ദയവായി പറയുമോ?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): More than a year.

MR. MURUVELIL PACHU PILLAI (*Shertallai*): എൽ. ആർ. എം. കമ്മറി റിപ്പോട്ടിൽ ഒരു മിസ്റ്റർ രാഘവയ്യങ്കാരെ പറ്റി പറയുന്നുണ്ടല്ലോ; ആ രാഘവയ്യങ്കാരും ഈ രാഘവയ്യങ്കാരും ഒരാൾ തന്നെയാണൊ?

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MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes, the same gentleman. I hope that the House will sanction this amount.

The fourth item is the additional staff required for checking the Land Records Maintenance sketches in the Survey Office, for which Rs. 2,660 is required. The Revenue Supervisors employed in the several taluks all over the State send up sketches to the Survey Office for check. As the normal staff of the Survey office was not able to cope with this work, Government sanctioned additional staff. After some time, this staff having been found quite inadequate to cope with the increasing volume of work, the Superintendent, Revenue Survey, sent up proposals for strengthening the staff. Though provision for an additional staff of 5 computor draftsmen on Rs. 20-1-25 and 14 on Rs. 20 each was included in the preliminary Budget for 1104 and placed before the Council, the provision was not voted upon with the result that the 4 draftsmen temporarily sanctioned had to be discharged from that year. The average monthly out-turn of a computor draftsman may be fixed at 150 sketches. At this rate, 20 hands will be required for checking the new sketches received from the Taluk offices every month. Besides the above, the preparation of traverse skeleton maps, skeleton demarcation sketches and the mapping of puduval sub-divisions surveyed in minor circuits and ayacut *porambokes* such as *kayals* and rivers etc., have also to be attended to as per the revised L. R. M. Rules and these items of work require the services of more computor draftsmen. If these works are not done, we will be losing land revenue and there could not be proper registry of lands. If the sketches received from the several taluks are not promptly checked and returned for further action, delay in the disposal of the revenue cases will be the result. This is a contingency which has to be avoided. A number of old sketches are also pending in the Survey Office.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know the number of taluks, the sketches of which have been completely checked in the Survey Office?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): There are about 3,000 sketches coming in every month. It is reported that 88,489 old sketches were pending check on the 1st Kumbham 1103 and that 8,599 sketches were received in the Survey Office during the first six months of 1103. Receipt of new sketches worked out to an average of 1,500 per mesem. From Kumbham 1103 to the 15th Kanni 1104 it is seen that on an average 3,000 new sketches are being received in the Survey Office monthly from Taluk offices. Working at this rate 20 hands are required to check the new sketches received from the Taluk office. I have explained the matter in detail. When the Land Records Scheme was first introduced a staff of 28 Revenue Supervisors, 230 accountants and 230 peons were sanctioned to attend to the L.R.M. work in the several taluks in the plains As the new scheme was only in its initial stage no necessity for any additional staff for office purposes in the Survey Office was then felt and hence no staff was asked for. The operation has been going on for the last 3 years and many sketches

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have been received in the Survey Office for check in addition to the arrears left by the old staff. The normal staff of the Survey Office is not able to cope with this increased work. It is a physical impossibility to get the arrears as well as current sketches done by the above staff. If the checking of sketches is delayed, the disposal of the revenue cases will be greatly affected. The existing surveyors cannot attend to this work at all as they are required for the normal field work of the department, while the computor draftsmen's work is in the office. It was because even the existing surveyors were found to be insufficient for field work that a special staff had to be entertained for the same.

I hope that the House will now be convinced as to the absolute necessity for the entertainment of the additional staff asked for, and they will sanction the same.

PRESIDENT: May I know whether the House sanctions the demand.

The grant of Rs. 4,740 was made.

DEMAND III—EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

MR. P. GOMATINAYAKAM PILLAI (*Excise Commissioner*): Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant not exceeding Rs. 3,000 for the construction of six Excise preventive stations. Proposals have been received for the construction of new stations this year and I have now come to the Council for funds. Of the six stations which the department proposes to construct the first is Pallikadavu in the Arukutty division. A third class station is proposed to be constructed here for the purpose of guarding the Cochin frontier. The site selected is on the western side of the canal from Poothotta to Udayamperur. Closely touching the eastern side of the canal is Cochin territory. Steps have already been taken for acquiring 5 cents of land for the purpose.

The second is Mulakulam in the Piravam division. This is situated in the Mulakulam pakuthy, Vaikam taluk.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. Can manuscript speeches be read here?

MR. P. GOMATINAYAKAM PILLAI (*Excise Commissioner*): I am not reading manuscript speeches. I am only reading the names of places for accurate information. The object of establishing a station in Mulakulam pakuthy is the prevention of tobacco smuggling. The site selected is near the pakuthy cutcherry and is of strategical importance. The site has already been acquired and an estimate for over Rs. 1,000 has also been sanctioned. Now the site has just been handed over to the department and the construction has to be taken up early.

Next is Puthukada station, Painkulam pakuthy, Vilavankod taluk, Trivandrum Division. This is intended for the use of the office of the Sub-Inspector and the party stationed at the place. Some years ago there was a Police out-post, and when that was abandoned, we took the opportunity of going to Government for getting permission to occupy it. Afterwards the Police Department wanted the building for their

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